

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NIC-01 IO-14 AEC-11 SCI-06 EB-11

COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 111662

R 211849Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0200

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 15214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, FR, CH

SUBJECT: SOVIET SUSPICION OF FRENCH-CHINESE NUCLEAR
COLLUSION

1. AT RECEPTION EVENING OF JUNE 20, SOVIET EMBASSY
COUNSELLOR ASKED EMBOFF WHETHER HE THOUGHT IT
SIGNIFICANT THAT CHINESE AND FRENCH HAD CONDUCTED
NUCLEAR TEST ON SAME DAY. WHEN EMBOFF REPLIED THAT
THIS SEEMED OBVIOUS ACCIDENTAL COINCIDENCE, SOVIET
COUNSELLOR DEMURRED, CLAIMING THERE WAS PASSAGE IN
SINO-FRENCH COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DURING POMPIDOU VISIT
LAST FALL ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION. COUNSELLOR LINKED
ALL THIS WITH VISIT TO PEKING BY GOF EMISSARY JUST
AFTER GISCARD'S ELECTION, DURING WHICH HE HAD
CONVERSATION WITH CHOU EN-LAI.

2. COMMENT. ACTUALLY, THERE WAS NO MENTION OF NUCLEAR
COOPERATION IN SEPT. 14 COMMUNIQUE. FURTHERMORE, GOF
"EMISSARY" WAS PIERRE SUDREAU, ASSEMBLY DEPUTE AND
CHAIRMAN OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL FAIRS,
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WHO WENT TO PEKING TO OPEN FRENCH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBIT

AS REPLACEMENT FOR GISCARD, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO HAVE
DONE THIS IN CAPACITY AS FINANCE MINISTER.

3. SIGNIFICANCE OF COUNSELLOR'S REMARK TO US IS THAT
IT UNDERLINES SOVIET SUSPICIONS TOWARD NEW GISCARD
GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE IT FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES HERE
THAT SOVIET EMBASSY IS RUNNING A LITTLE SCARED OVER
PROSPECTS FOR FRENCH-SOVIET RELATIONS. YUGOSLAV
COUNSELLOR TELLS US, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT SOVIET DIPLOMATS
HERE WERE UPSET OVER CHIRAC'S REMARKS TO FRENCH
ASSEMBLY JUNE 5 ON FOREIGN POLICY FEELING THAT
PASSAGE ON FRENCH-SOVIET RELATIONS SUFFERED BY
COMPARISON WITH CALL FOR "ACTIVE AND FRIENDLY
COOPERATION" WITH THE US, POINTEDLY REFERRED TO AS
"THE FOREMOST ECONOMIC POWER OF THE WORLD."
STONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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